



North Carolina Department of Health and Human Services
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May 4, 2012

MEMORANDUM

TO: North Carolina Colleges and Universities

FROM: Beth Rowe-West, RN, BSN, Head
Immunization Branch

SUBJECT: College Immunization Requirements

The purpose of this memorandum is to answer and clarify questions concerning immunization requirements for college and university students, including acceptable shot records, record retention, and clarification about returning students.

Immunization Records for College/University Entry

Relevant to these questions, the N.C. General Statute states:

The certificate [of immunization] shall state the name of the student, the name of the student's parent, guardian, or person responsible for the student obtaining the required immunizations [if under 18]; the address of the student [a student's address at school is acceptable], and the parent, guardian or responsible person [if under 18]; the date of birth of the student; the sex of the student; the number of doses of the vaccine given; the date the doses were given; the name and address of the physician or local health department administering the required immunizations; and other relevant information required by the Commission. G.S. 130A-154(a)

A person who received immunizations in a state other than North Carolina shall present an official certificate of immunization or record of immunization to the college or university. This certificate must include the information as listed above, including the type and number of doses of administered vaccine and the dates of the first MMR and the last DTP and polio. G.S. 130A-154(b). For out of state records, a date containing only a month and year is acceptable by law.

Currently, a Student Permanent Health Record that a student provides from a N.C. school meets the requirements for entrance to a college or university. Generally, the current NC WISE (public school electronic system) report does not meet all the requirements for admission to colleges or universities in North Carolina; however, if an NC WISE report is found to meet all of the requirements to be an "official certificate of immunization", then it would be acceptable for school entry. High school transcripts from a N.C. school may or may not include a NC WISE shot record. A student should get verification from their high school if the question arises. Remember, a shot record must have a provider name and address identified on the record to be acceptable for school entry. It does not require a signature, but must have a provider name. The only exception to this is a Student Permanent Health Record from N.C.